बोकारो इस्पात संयंत्र के आधुनिकीकरण के चरण-I से संबंधित "सेल" के प्रस्ताव को सरकार ने 23.7.93 को मंजूरी प्रदान कर दी है।

(ख) इस्पात प्रगलनशाला-II में सतत ढलाई विभाग के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पैकेज का अनुबंध मैसर्स वोइस्ट अल्पाइन को दिया गया है जो भारतीय सहयोगियों की सहयोगी आस्ट्रियन कम्पनी है।

(ग) और (घ) मैसर्स हैवी इंजीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन (एच.ई.सी.) ने मैसर्स एस.एम.एस. स्कोलेमेन सीमैग, जर्मनी और भारतीय सहयोगियों के सहयोग से अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पैकेज अर्थात् इस्पात प्रगलनशाला-II में सतत ढलाई के लिए अपनी निविदा प्रस्तुत की थी। उनकी पेशकश को उच्च पाया गया। अतः उन्हें अनुबंध नहीं दिया गया।

Cost of Production of Sponge Iron

2567. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of production of sponge iron with present duty structure is very high;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted to compare our production cost with the production costs in other countries;

(c) if so, what are the results of such studies and what further action has been taken in the matter in the light of these studies;

(d) whether various suggestions of the manufacturers regarding reduction of customs duty on iron ore pellets and non-coking coal have been received by Government; and

(e) if so, what are the details of the different suggestions and what action has been taken on such suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Sponge iron manufacturing units are primarily in the private sector. It has been reported that the domestic sponge iron industry almost entirely uses indigenous and not imported raw materials for production of sponge iron.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) to (e) The Sponge Iron Manufacturers Association (SIMA) have been representing for reduction of customs duty on iron ore, iron ore pellets and on non coking coal. The Budget for 1994-95 had inter-alia reduced customs duty on iron ore pellets from 15% to 10% and on non-coking coal from 85% to 35%. Customs duty on iron ore pellets had further been reduced to 5% from 26.4.94. Further requests made by SIMA are under examination.

Amount Spent on Advertisement

2568. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state that the details of the total amount spent by his Ministry on advertisement given direct or through DAVP etc. during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94 language-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): No advertisement was issued directly by Ministry of Steel during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94.

The details of the total expenditure incurred on advertisement by the Ministry of Steel through DAVP during these years are given below:—

(Rupees)

Sl.No.	Language	Amount Committed
	1992-93	
1.	English	29993.00
2.	Hindi	17868.00
	Total:	47861.00
	1993-94	
1.	English	2833.00
2.	Hindi	527.00
	Total:	3360.00

Payment against the above commitments would be released by the Ministry of Steel on receipt of bills from DAVP.

अनुषंगी इस्पात उत्पादक-एककों का उत्पादन

2569. श्री राम जेठमलानी: क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में अनुषंगी इस्पात उत्पादक एककों के उत्पादन में गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान भारी कमी आई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्रमशः 1990-91 और 1993-94 के दौरान इस क्षेत्र के एककों द्वारा किए गए उत्पादन का ब्यौरा क्या है;